CULTURE

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The Snow Star pilgrimage in the Peruvian Andes

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

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WORLD CUP

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USA And Mexico Advance In Thrilling World Cup Play

Medicina Scarlett expande la atención médica bilingüe con el apoyo de Motor City Match

Texto y fotos por Andrés Ospina

Más de dos años después de haber abierto Medicina Scarlett en el suroeste de Detroit, su fundadora, Scarlett Idema, afirma que la clínica bilingüe ya superó la capacidad de su espacio. Este centro de atención primaria atiende actualmente un promedio de 265 pacientes por semana, en comparación con los cerca de 35 pacientes que recibió durante su primera semana de funcionamiento.

Lo que comenzó como una práctica individual se ha convertido en un equipo de cuatro profesionales clínicos que atienden a cientos de pacientes cada semana, y ya se prepara para abrir una segunda ubicación tras recibir su segunda subvención a través de Motor City Match, una iniciativa para pequeñas empresas de Detroit administrada por la Corporación de Crecimiento Económico de Detroit

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Medicina Scarlett's second clinic is under construction at 7000 W. Vernor Highway.

Medicina Scarlett Expands Bilingual Healthcare with Help from Motor City Match

Story and photos by Andrés Ospina

More than two years after opening Medicina Scarlett in Southwest Detroit, founder Scarlett Idema says the bilingual clinic has already outgrown its space. The primary care practice now sees an average of 265 patients a week, up from about 35 patients during its first week of operation. What began as a solo practice has grown into a team of four clinicians serving hundreds of patients each week and is preparing to open a second location after receiving its second grant through Motor City Match, a Detroit small-business initiative administered by the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation (DEGC).

Idema, a family nurse practitioner originally from Costa Rica, first came to Southwest Detroit around 2020 to work at another clinic. She said her experience working with Spanish-speaking patients convinced her there was room

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Detroit Hometown Summit Offers Vision For Affordable Housing

DETROIT — Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD) and Neighborhood Service Organization (NSO) will host Hometown Summit: A Vision for Affordable Housing on Wednesday, July 1, from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. at WCCCD's Northwest Campus, 8200 Outer Drive West in Detroit. The event will bring together regional leaders to address one of Detroit's most pressing challenges — ensuring access to safe, stable and affordable housing.

The solutions-focused summit will feature keynote remarks from Marcia L. Fudge, former U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and will convene decision-makers from government, housing development, education, philanthropy, the nonprofit sector and community organizations to discuss practical strategies for expanding housing opportunities across the region.

Hosted by WCCCD and NSO, the event is designed to foster collaboration among legislators, developers, advocates, nonprofits, funders, landlords, courts, service providers and residents committed to building a stronger housing ecosystem for Detroit and Southeast Michigan.

"Affordable housing is not just a housing issue — it is a foundation for economic mobility, public health, educational success and community stability," said Linda Little, president and CEO of Neighborhood Service Organization. "This summit is about bringing the right voices to the table who can move beyond discussion and toward meaningful action. By convening leaders from every sector, we can identify solutions that strengthen neighborhoods, support families and create lasting pathways to housing stability."

The summit will begin with welcome remarks from Little and Dr. Curtis L. Ivery, chancellor of Wayne County Community College District, followed by the keynote address from Secretary Fudge.

Programming will include three panel discussions examining affordable housing from multiple perspectives:

The Vision — A discussion focused on the future of affordable housing and its role in regional growth and success. The session will be moderated by Little and Adam Hollier, former Michigan State Senator, and will feature Secretary Fudge and other regional leaders.

The Reality – Titled "Can We Sustain the Housing Market?" this panel will explore practical challenges facing the housing sector, including construction costs, housing inventory, financing and development opportunities. Participants include representatives from the City of Detroit Housing and Revitalization Department, the Real Estate Association of Developers (READ), the 36th District Court Landlord-Tenant Division, educational leaders, builders and funding organizations.

The Need – This discussion will examine housing instability and the barriers facing vulnerable populations, including youth aging out of foster care, families experiencing domestic violence, and residents navigating eviction and housing insecurity. Community advocates, faith leaders and housing experts will share perspectives on support systems and policy solutions.

"Affordable housing is one of the defining issues facing Detroit's future," said Hollier. "The challenges are complex, but they are not insurmountable. This event creates an opportunity for leaders across sectors to align around solutions that increase housing access, strengthen communities and ensure Detroit's growth benefits everyone. We are honored to welcome Secretary Fudge and a diverse group of stakeholders who are committed to moving this conversation forward."

Organizers say the summit comes at a critical time as Detroit continues to experience economic investment and neighborhood revitalization while many residents still face affordability challenges, limited housing inventory and barriers to long-term housing security.

The event is free and open to the public, though advance registration is encouraged due to limited seating.

RSVP: For more information and to register, visit the event registration page at https://donate.nso-mi.org/campaigns/45729-affordable-housing-summit/join

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Detroit's Veteran Builders Pass Down Lessons That Cost Them

By Michael D. Gutierrez

Jason Jones thought the house he was buying needed about $25,000 in repairs. His contractor had looked at it for five minutes and said the number was solid, so Jones closed on the purchase. Then the same contractor spent two hours writing up the actual work and handed him a bill for $75,000. Jones told this story as a warning during a panel held by the Real Estate Association of Developers in partnership with DFO313. "Do not close on that house if you have not signed a construction contract," he said.

Jones helped found READ, the Real Estate Association of Developers, a mostly Black group of Detroit developers and contractors. He was one of four speakers on a panel titled "State of Construction: Where Development Meets Execution" that READ held in partnership with DFO313 on Thursday, June 11th, at The Edit on East Grand Boulevard in Detroit. Matthew Boyd, director of acquisitions at Kipling Development, moderated. Luis Ali of AGI Construction said DFO313, which was founded by his wife Tanya Saldivar-Ali, works with local contractors to build their skills so Black and Brown builders get a share of the work as the city is rebuilt.

The panelists did not downplay how hard it is for a contractor of color to break in. "There's been a learning curve, and I don't think anybody's really been handing out those instructions properly," Ali said. What the panel offered in response was not a promise that the barriers would fall, but a list of things a builder can control. Ali drew the first line himself, saying "There is no one looking out for your best interest but yourself," he said.

That list started with knowing what a project should cost. Derric Scott, a developer and trained architect who runs the firm J29:7, told the room to set a budget first and design the project to fit it, instead of letting an architect and a contractor name a number and treating that as the budget. He urged the audience to gather several real bids and compare them against one another rather than collecting a price here and a price there.

But those numbers only hold up once the deal is in writing. The contract Jones wished he had signed before buying that house was the same protection Ali recommended from the contractor's side. Finish the design before any work starts, Ali said, because the costs start climbing the moment crews are standing around waiting on answers.

The most expensive surprises hide underground, Scott said. He once decommissioned old industrial plants for Ford Motor Company and had to know exactly what was buried

Panelists speak during the State of Construction 2026 forum at The Edit in Detroit on Thursday, June 11, 2026. Co-hosted by READ and DFO313, the discussion provided developers, contractors, and industry professionals with practical insights on navigating today's construction market. (Photo by Brayan Gutierrez)

beneath them, and he had no patience for owners who insist they could not have known. "You can know. It just costs for you to find out," he said. The same logic held above ground, he added, recalling a project where bringing the installers into the room early caught an unavailable material before it turned into a surprise bill of $120,000. For older buildings, Jones shared his practical advice for rehabs. Tear the walls open before you close on the purchase, he said, so you find the broken beam while there is still money left to fix it.

Even the newest tools, Jones said, mostly come down to doing the basics. He joked that simply using artificial intelligence to write a contract would put a builder ahead of almost everyone else, because so many people still work on a handshake.

But being organized only takes a builder so far when the market itself does not bring the right people together. Panelist Justin Turk runs a construction-technology company called ConStrat AI. He said that in a single market he will hear a land bank claim it cannot find qualified contractors, a contractor say he does not know where to bid, and a supplier say she cannot find buyers, all of them working mere blocks apart. Programs that once helped minority-owned businesses win public work are now under legal attack, Turk added, so contractors can no longer count on them. His answer was to team up and share the work, the risk, and the profit, which means being organized enough to be the partner someone wants rather than the risk someone avoids. Boyd put it more plainly. "Deals move at the speed of relationships, and relationships move at the speed of trust," he said.

And the point of all the preparation, Turk said, is not to stay a prepared laborer. He traced the small number of Black builders back to what families tell their children, and said the path has to run from laborer to project manager to owner. "We've been commissioning people to do a task, and that society is dying," he said.

Near the end of the panel, Ali came back to explicitly state why any of it matters. For all the talk of contracts and numbers, he kept his attention on the community the work is supposed to serve. "How do we teach our people to work with each other so that we're keeping that engine running in our economy and building up our communities?" he said.

DFO313 offers training in estimating and project management at their headquarters near Michigan Central in Southwest Detroit. Upcoming sessions are posted at www.dfo313.org.

Michael D. Gutierrez is the Digital Content Manager for EL CENTRAL Hispanic News. He is a screenwriter and filmmaker with a decade of experience in the television and film industry, contributing to projects including THE HOLDOVERS and LETHAL WEAPON on Fox. He is an active member of the Writers Guild of America-West and its Latino Writers Committee.

Constructores veteranos de Detroit comparten lecciones que les costaron caro

Por Michael D. Gutierrez

Jason Jones pensó que la casa que estaba comprando necesitaba unos 25 mil dólares en reparaciones. Su contratista la había visto durante cinco minutos y le dijo que esa cifra estaba bien calculada, así que Jones cerró la compra. Pero después, ese mismo contratista pasó dos horas revisando el trabajo real que hacía falta y le entregó una factura de 75 mil dólares. Jones contó esta historia como una advertencia durante un panel organizado por la Real Estate Association of Developers, en colaboración con DFO313.

"No cierres la compra de esa casa si todavía no has firmado un contrato de construcción", dijo.

Jones ayudó a fundar READ, la Real Estate Association of Developers, un grupo formado principalmente por desarrolladores y contratistas negros de Detroit. Él fue uno de los cuatro panelistas en el evento "State of Construction: Where Development Meets Execution", que se llevó a cabo el jueves 11 de junio en The Edit, sobre East Grand Boulevard, en Detroit.

Matthew Boyd, director de adquisiciones de Kipling Development, moderó la conversación. Luis Ali, de AGI Construction, dijo que su empresa trabaja con contratistas locales para ayudarles a fortalecer sus habilidades, de manera que constructores negros y latinos también reciban parte del trabajo mientras la ciudad se sigue reconstruyendo.

Los panelistas no minimizaron lo difícil que puede ser para un contratista de color entrar a la industria. Ali dijo que las instrucciones nunca se entregaron de forma clara. "Ha habido una curva de aprendizaje, y no creo que nadie haya estado entregando esas instrucciones correctamente", dijo.

Lo que el panel ofreció no fue una promesa de que las barreras van a desaparecer. Más bien, presentó una lista de cosas que un constructor sí puede controlar. Ali marcó la primera de forma directa. "No hay nadie cuidando tus mejores intereses más que tú mismo", dijo.

Esa lista empezó con saber cuánto debe costar un proyecto. Derric Scott, desarrollador y arquitecto de formación que dirige la firma J29:7, le dijo al público que primero debe establecer un presupuesto y luego diseñar el proyecto para ajustarse a ese presupuesto. No al revés: dejar que un arquitecto y un contratista pongan una cifra y después tratar esa cifra como si fuera el presupuesto.

Scott recomendó conseguir varias cotizaciones reales y compararlas entre sí, en lugar de juntar un precio de un lado y otro precio de otro sin tener una visión completa. Pero esos números solamente tienen valor cuando el acuerdo está por escrito. El contrato que Jones hubiera querido firmar antes de comprar aquella casa es la misma protección que Ali recomendó desde el punto de vista del contratista. Ali dijo que el diseño debe estar terminado antes de que empiece cualquier trabajo, porque los costos empiezan a subir en el momento en que las cuadrillas están paradas esperando respuestas.

Scott dijo que las sorpresas más caras muchas veces están escondidas bajo tierra. Recordó que antes trabajó desmantelando antiguas plantas industriales para Ford Motor Company, donde tenía que saber exactamente qué había enterrado debajo de esos sitios. Por eso, dijo que no tiene paciencia con dueños que insisten en que no podían haber sabido lo que había allí. "Sí puedes saber. Lo que pasa es que cuesta averiguarlo", dijo.

La misma lógica aplica arriba de la tierra, agregó. Scott

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Medicina Scarlett expande la atención médica bilingüe

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(DEGC, por sus siglas en inglés).

Idema, una enfermera practicante de medicina familiar de Costa Rica, llegó por primera vez al suroeste de Detroit alrededor de 2020 para trabajar en otra clínica. Explicó que su experiencia trabajando con pacientes de habla hispana la convenció de que había espacio para una consulta enfocada en la atención bilingüe y la medicina preventiva. Esa experiencia la inspiró a abrir Medicina Scarlett, una clínica de atención primaria sin cita previa enfocada en hacer que los servicios médicos sean más accesibles y personalizados. "Quería hacerlo bien", afirmó Idema. "Quería que las personas recibieran el trato que considero que merecen".

El proyecto recibió un impulso en 2023 cuando Idema postuló a Motor City Match por sugerencia de su arrendador. El programa le otorgó una subvención de $50,000, la cual utilizó para comprar equipo médico para la clínica. Lanzado en 2015 y administrado por la DEGC, Motor City Match brinda ayuda económica, asistencia técnica y apoyo empresarial a emprendedores que buscan iniciar o expandir negocios con instalaciones físicas en los vecindarios de Detroit.

Madison Schillig, directora del programa Motor City Match, señaló que Medicina Scarlett ejemplifica el tipo de negocio local que la iniciativa busca respaldar. Idema ha recibido dos subvenciones a través del programa: la primera ayudó a abrir la clínica en el 8631 W. Vernor, y la segunda, también de $50,000, está respaldando la expansión de la clínica en Southwest Detroit. Desde 2021, Motor City Match ha otorgado 77 subvenciones a negocios en el Distrito 6, invirtiendo más de $3 millones a través de fondos en efectivo y asistencia técnica.

El programa también ha apoyado a 24 negocios de propiedad de latinos en toda la ciudad, incluyendo 15 en el suroeste de Detroit, lo que representa una inversión de $725,000 en la zona. Schillig afirmó que la trayectoria de Idema en el suroeste de Detroit y su compromiso de servicio con la comunidad hicieron que Medicina Scarlett encajara de forma natural. "Motor City Match respalda a los emprendedores que fortalecen sus corredores comerciales y sirven a sus vecinos, y Medicina Scarlett hace ambas cosas", declaró Schillig.

Para Idema, la subvención ayudó a cubrir el déficit de financiamiento de un proyecto que, en total, requirió una inversión de aproximadamente $265,000. "Literalmente cubre la brecha", comentó. "Tienes tu propio dinero, pero el presupuesto es ajustado. Esto es una ayuda económica, por ende, no tienes que devolverla".

Medicina Scarlett abrió oficialmente en marzo de 2024. Actualmente, la clínica cuenta con tres enfermeras practicantes y un asistente médico (PA), además de personal de recepción y asistentes clínicos. Alrededor del 87 por ciento de los pacientes son de habla hispana, y muchos viajan desde fuera del vecindario, incluyendo localidades como Pontiac, Ann Arbor y Ypsilanti.

La clínica opera como una consulta de atención primaria sin cita previa, ofreciendo chequeos anuales, manejo de enfermedades crónicas y consultas el mismo día. Idema destacó que la clínica se diferencia al dedicar más tiempo a los pacientes y por enfocarse en identificar los problemas de salud de base, en lugar de limitarse a tratar los síntomas. "Intentamos solucionar la causa raíz, no solo darte una pastilla para cada cosa", explicó Idema. "Nos tomamos nuestro tiempo. Aquí no eres un número más; eres parte de este lugar".

Scarlett Idema en Medicina Scarlett en Southwest Detroit.

La demanda ha llegado a ser tan alta que la clínica sumó recientemente un horario de atención los sábados y se prepara para expandirse. El proyecto de expansión, estimado en unos $800,000, incluye financiamiento de Huntington Bank, recursos propios de Idema y el apoyo de Motor City Match. La nueva clínica ocupará un edificio de 8,600 pies cuadrados en el 7000 Vernor Highway y contará con 15 salas de exploración, un centro de infusión, servicios de ultrasonido y rayos X, y una farmacia de fórmulas magistrales.

Idema espera inaugurar las instalaciones en septiembre y, eventualmente, operar los siete días de la semana, al tiempo que genera más empleos en Detroit. A largo plazo, espera replicar este modelo en otras comunidades de Michigan que tengan grandes poblaciones hispanas. Por el momento, su enfoque sigue siendo continuar desarrollando la consulta que construyó y ampliar el acceso a una atención médica bilingüe y preventiva.

RediMed Farmacia opera junto a Medicina Scarlett en Southwest Detroit.

Encontrar una ubicación resultó ser un desafío. El edificio que ahora alberga a Medicina Scarlett estaba tapiado cuando Idema lo vio por primera vez en 2022 y requirió remodelaciones exhaustivas, desde plomería hasta trabajos eléctricos, lo que retrasó el proyecto casi un año. Aún así, vio una oportunidad en la propiedad descuidada. "Al pasar por ahí, vi un gran potencial", recordó Idema.

Medicina Scarlett abrió sus puertas en marzo de 2024 en 8631 W. Vernor.

Detroit Health Department Releases Community Health Roadmap Informed by 6,000+ Detroiters

On Tuesday, June 23, Mayor Mary Sheffield, joined by Chief Public Health Officer Ali Abazeed, Detroit Health Department staff and community partners released the Community Health Assessment (CHA), the City's most comprehensive snapshot of community health since 2018.

The CHA examines how social factors, lived experiences, and built environments have shaped Detroit's life expectancy and health outcomes over time. The report serves as the foundation for the 2026 – 2029 community health improvement plan (CHIP), which will begin implementation this summer.

"The Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) will be our blueprint for improving health equity and outcomes for Detroiters," said Mayor Sheffield. "This report is another example of how my administration is putting resident voices at the forefront of our policy and program decisions and advancing my Health in All Policies approach. I appreciate the significant contributions of the Detroit Health Department team, our community task force partners, and the more than 6,000 Detroiters who contributed to this plan."

"By centering resident voices, we are putting Health in All Policies into practice," said Ali Abazeed, Chief Public Health Officer and Director of the Detroit Health Department.

"The CHA tells us where Detroiters are facing barriers to health, and the CHIP gives us a shared roadmap to address them – from maternal and infant health and chronic conditions to food access and access to care. I'm proud of the Detroit Health Department team and our community partners for turning data and lived experienced into concrete action for every neighborhood."

The report was developed by the Detroit Health Department in partnership with a nearly 30-member task force, made up of representatives of a broad spectrum of community organizations, each of which plays an important role in the community wellness ecosystem.

Building on the recognition that poor health outcomes are varied, complex, and interrelated, Detroit's community health improvement process, led by Public Health Division Administrator Tiffani A. Stewart, pinpointed four strategic issues during the development of the report, each of which has its own series of goals and objectives, as well as specific strategies for accomplishing them:

1. Maternal and Infant Health:

Residents highlighted barriers and concerns with childcare, family and social support, built environment, and transportation often driven by racial disparities and insufficient resources.

2. Chronic Conditions:

Residents raised concerns about air quality and its connection to asthma burden, particularly among vulnerable populations.

3. Access to Healthy Food:

Many residents struggle to find affordable, healthy food options, which limits their ability to maintain a nutritious diet. Other challenges included the availability of healthy food choices, proximity to grocery stores, food deserts, and a need for better nutrition education to help residents understand the importance of healthy eating.

4. Access to Healthcare:

Residents identified several key issues contributing to this challenge, including proximity to care, gaps in healthcare providers' understanding of the unique needs of diverse communities, extended wait times for appointments and treatments, lack of trust in healthcare providers, and difficulties navigating insurance.

"What stands out from this process is how aligned Detroiters are on what families need to be healthy and stable," said Jasahn M. Larsosa, Executive Director of GreenLight Fund Detroit.

"What we heard through the CHA closely mirrors what GreenLight Fund Detroit heard through our own community engagement process, which culminated in our investment in Rx Kids. The momentum to bring programs like this to Detroit is an early indication of the CHIP coming to life, where community voice is matched with bold, proven solutions."

Residents and community partners are invited to join our CHIP Action Teams to support community action. The community health improvement plan (CHIP) is intended to be a living document, one that evolves as new data, partnerships, and funding opportunities emerge.

The Detroit Health Department wishes to express appreciation to Michigan Public Health Institute for their partnership and support in bringing this report to fruition. We also thank the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) for generously funding this work.

The full 2025 community health assessment and improvement plan report is now available for public download at detroitmi.gov/health.

Medicina Scarlett Expands Bilingual Healthcare

Continued from page 1

for a practice centered on bilingual care and preventive medicine. That experience inspired her to open Medicina Scarlett, a walk-in primary care clinic focused on making healthcare more accessible and personal. “I wanted to do it right,” Idema said. “I wanted people to be treated the way I think they should be treated.”

Finding a location proved challenging. The building that now houses Medicina Scarlett was boarded up when Idema first saw it in 2022 and required extensive renovations, from plumbing to electrical work, delaying the project by nearly a year. Still, she saw an opportunity in the neglected property. “When I drove by, I saw great potential,” Idema recalled.

The project received a boost in 2023 when Idema applied to Motor City Match after a suggestion from her landlord. The program awarded her a $50,000 grant, which she used to purchase medical equipment for the clinic. Launched in 2015 and administered by DEGC, Motor City Match provides grants, technical assistance and business support to entrepreneurs seeking to start or expand brick-and-mortar businesses in Detroit neighborhoods.

Madison Schillig, program director of Motor City Match, said Medicina Scarlett exemplifies the type of neighborhood business the initiative aims to support. Idema has received two grants through the program: the first helped open the clinic at 8631 W. Vernor, and the second $50,000 grant is supporting the clinic’s expansion in the neighborhood. Since 2021, Motor City Match has awarded 77 grants to businesses in District 6, investing more than $3 million through cash grants and technical assistance.

The program has also supported 24 Latino-owned businesses citywide, including 15 in Southwest Detroit, representing an investment of $725,000 in the area. Schillig said Idema’s track record in Southwest Detroit and her commitment to serving the community made Medicina Scarlett a natural fit. “Motor City Match backs entrepreneurs who strengthen their corridors and serve their neighbors, and Medicina Scarlett does both,” Schillig said.

For Idema, the grant helped close a financing gap on a project that ultimately required an investment of about $265,000. “It literally closes the gap,” she said. “You have your money, but it’s tight. This is a grant; you don’t have to pay it back.”

Medicina Scarlett officially opened in March 2024. The clinic now employs three nurse practitioners and one physician assistant, along with front desk staff and medical assistants. About 87 percent of patients are Spanish-speaking, and many travel from outside the neighborhood, including Pontiac, Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti.

The clinic operates as a walk-in primary care practice, offering annual checkups, chronic disease management and same-day visits. Idema said the clinic distinguishes itself by spending more time with patients and focusing on identifying underlying health issues rather than only treating symptoms. “We’re trying to fix your root cause, not just giving you a pill for everything,” Idema said. “We take our time. You’re not just a number. You’re part of this place.”

The demand has become so strong that the clinic recently added Saturday hours and is preparing to expand. The expansion project, estimated at about $800,000, includes financing from Huntington Bank, Idema’s own investment and support from Motor City Match. The new clinic will occupy an 8,600-square-foot building at 7000 Vernor Highway and feature 15 exam rooms, an infusion center, ultrasound and X-ray services, and a compounding pharmacy.

The clinic employs clinicians, medical assistants and front desk staff.

Idema hopes to open the facility in September and eventually operate seven days a week while creating additional jobs in Detroit. Long term, she hopes to replicate the model in other Michigan communities with large Hispanic populations. For now, her focus remains on continuing to grow the practice she built and expanding access to bilingual, preventive care.

Andrés Ospina is a Detroit-based freelance journalist and business consultant covering business, entrepreneurship and economic development. Originally from Colombia, he holds a double major in Communications and Journalism and an MBA from the University of Exeter (UK). His work connects the dots between his experience supporting small businesses, startups and organizations and his background in journalism, bringing a practitioner’s perspective to the stories he tells.

MEDICINA SCARLETT
FAMILY PRIMARY CARE

Resistance Works!

ICE Signals Retreat from Romulus as its National Detention Plan Falters

ROMULUS, Mich. — Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel announced on Thursday, June 18 that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement will abandon its plan to convert the warehouse at 7525 Cogswell Street into an immigration detention center and will instead sell the property. The reversal — coming less than three months after the State of Michigan and the City of Romulus sued, and after months of community organizing led by the Coalition to Shut the Camps (CSC) — is the latest sign that the federal government’s nationwide plan to build a network of mass-detention warehouses is faltering under organized opposition, community by community.

CSC welcomed the announcement as a hopeful and hard-won development while cautioning, firmly, that it is not yet a final outcome. While the news came from the Attorney General’s office, the Coalition said it is still waiting to hear DHS’s own confirmation and to see the specific, binding terms. ICE has not sold the building, no money has changed hands, and the lawsuit will remain active until DHS and ICE sign a written agreement promising never to use the site for detention and to list it for sale — and CSC will be watching that it contains no loophole to relabel the site a “processing center” and reopen the same fight.

We are not declaring final victory [just yet] — we are still waiting to learn the binding terms, and a promise to sell is not a sale. But we already know why the federal government has reached this point. Authoritarian projects run on the appearance of inevitability; they win when people believe resistance is pointless. Romulus is showing the opposite. This project was not stalled by luck or by anyone’s change of heart — it was stalled by a community that applied constant, strategically directed pressure to every weak point it had: legal, political, environmental, and infrastructural. That is the method. And the method is working.

Protests Against ICE Facility in Romulus | Photo by Erick Díaz Veliz

In a statement following the reporting by the New York Times, State Senator Darrin Camilleri said “We knew from the start that this ICE facility was unwanted and unwarranted in our community. We organized and coordinated with local and state partners to fight back, and we won. The administration’s heavy-handed tactics were unconstitutional, unpopular, and aimed to bulldoze over local opposition. I am incredibly grateful to the Romulus community, Mayor McCraight, and Attorney General Nessel for standing their ground and fighting for our neighbors.”

This reversal by ICE is due to the hundreds of protestors who voiced their opposition to the plans to warehouse detainees in inhumane conditions in Romulus as well as groups like the Coalition to Shut the Camps, Detroit Committee to Stop ICE and dozens of courageous local and state government representatives who have stood up to resist ICE’s brutal tactics in our community.

Southwest Detroit Favorite Reopens!

Great news for the Southwest Detroit community: E&L Supermercado reopened its doors on Friday, June 19, following weeks of repairs after a devastating fire caused by an arsonist on May 11, 2026.

Just before the market's scheduled opening that morning, a fire was intentionally set outside the store, causing extensive smoke and water damage throughout the interior. While the Detroit Fire Department quickly contained the blaze, owners Mike and Dave Fienman reported that virtually all merchandise inside the store was lost, leaving more than 100 employees temporarily out of work and thousands of customers without one of the community's most trusted sources for fresh meats, deli items, groceries, and specialty products.

Since then, crews have worked tirelessly to restore the market, and the Fienman family is eager to once again serve the community that has supported E&L for generations. While repairs to portions of the building's exterior—including brickwork, tile, and signage—will continue in the coming weeks, the store is ready to welcome customers back inside.

The reopening marks an important milestone not only for E&L Supermercado, but for the entire Southwest Detroit community, which rallied around the business with countless messages of encouragement and support following the fire.

Shoppers can once again enjoy the finest selection of Mexican meats, fresh produce, groceries, bakery items, and specialty products that have made E&L a neighborhood institution for decades.

Welcome back, E&L! SouthWest Detroit is so happy to have you back!

Constructores veteranos de Detroit comparten lecciones

continúa de la página 3

recordó un proyecto donde haber invitado a los instaladores a la conversación desde el principio ayudó a descubrir que cierto material no estaba disponible antes de que eso se convirtiera en una factura sorpresa de 120 mil dólares. Para edificios más viejos, Jones compartió un consejo práctico para proyectos de rehabilitación. Dijo que hay que abrir las paredes antes de cerrar la compra, para encontrar problemas como una viga rota cuando todavía hay dinero para arreglarla.

Incluso las herramientas más nuevas, dijo Jones, muchas veces se reducen a hacer bien lo básico. Bromeó diciendo que simplemente usar inteligencia artificial para escribir un contrato ya pondría a un constructor por delante de casi todos los demás, porque demasiadas personas todavía trabajan con acuerdos de palabra.

Pero estar organizado sólo lleva a un constructor hasta cierto punto cuando el mercado no conecta a las personas correctas. El panelista Justin Turk dirige una empresa de tecnología para la construcción llamada ConStrat AI. Dijo que en un mismo mercado puede escuchar a un banco de tierras decir que no encuentra contratistas calificados, a un contratista decir que no sabe dónde presentar propuestas, y a una proveedora decir que no encuentra compradores, aunque todos estén trabajando a pocas cuadras de distancia. Turk agregó que los programas que antes ayudaban a negocios propiedad de minorías a conseguir contratos públicos ahora enfrentan ataques legales, así que los contratistas ya no pueden depender de ellos.

Su respuesta fue formar equipos y compartir el trabajo, el riesgo y las ganancias. Eso significa estar lo suficientemente organizado para ser el socio que alguien quiere tener, y no el riesgo que alguien prefiere evitar. Boyd lo dijo de una manera más sencilla. "Los negocios se mueven a la velocidad de las relaciones, y las relaciones se mueven a la velocidad de la confianza", dijo. Turk también dijo que el objetivo de toda esa preparación no es quedarse como un trabajador preparado. Habló de la pequeña cantidad de constructores negros y la conectó con lo que las familias les dicen a sus hijos. Dijo que el camino debe ir de trabajador, a gerente de proyecto, a dueño. "Hemos estado encargando a la gente que haga una tarea, y esa sociedad se está muriendo", dijo.

Cerca del final del panel, Ali volvió a explicar por qué todo esto importa. A pesar de toda la conversación sobre contratos y números, mantuvo su atención en la comunidad a la que se supone que debe servir este trabajo.

"¿Cómo enseñamos a nuestra gente a trabajar entre nosotros para mantener ese motor funcionando en nuestra economía y construir nuestras comunidades?", dijo.

DFO313 ofrece capacitación en estimación de costos y gestión de proyectos en sus oficinas cerca de Michigan Central en Southwest Detroit. Las próximas sesiones se publican en www.dfo313.org.

De la oficina del Tesorero del Condado de Wayne,
Eric R. Sabree

PUEDE AYUDARLO CON EL PROCESO DE ASISTENCIA CON SUCESIONES

¿Se enfrenta a una ejecución hipotecaria y necesita ayuda para iniciar un proceso de sucesiones en el Tribunal de Sucesiones del Condado de Wayne porque una propiedad está a nombre de un familiar fallecido?

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Qoyllur Rit'i: la peregrinación de la Estrella de Nieve en los Andes peruanos

Texto y fotos por Erick Diaz Veliz

El santuario ya no estaba muy lejos. Filas y filas de personas avanzaban en la misma dirección y me envolvían cada vez que me detenía a descansar; al voltear, cabezas de peregrinos y mulas formaban una fila tan larga que se perdía entre las montañas. Solo quedaba una última lomada, empinada y abarrotada de vendedores ambulantes, donde puestos de comida local e incluso amuletos ofrecían una parada obligatoria para intentar disipar, aunque fuera por un momento, el mal de altura, los dolores de cabeza y calmar el corazón.

Rodeada de velas, una de las últimas cruces ofrecía una escena difícil de encontrar en cualquier otro lugar: un inmenso valle, a casi 4.900 metros sobre el nivel del mar, con tantos peregrinos que cubrían la cuenca glaciar como una manta de confeti que un solo soplo podría lanzar al cielo. Una ciudad temporal de carpas y puestos extendida por el valle de Sinanqara, habitada por devotos, danzantes y personajes mitológicos de la religiosidad andina sudamericana que habían llegado para venerar al Señor de Qoyllur Rit'i en el santuario del mismo nombre, al pie del nevado Colquepunco.

—¿Qué significa Qoyllur Rit'i? —pregunté.

—Significa nieve de estrella, en quechua —me respondió Justiniano Quispe mientras me acompañaba durante uno de mis descansos. Padre de familia cusqueño y sesentón, ha visitado el santuario desde que

El santuario de Qoyllur Rit'i rodeado de tiendas de campaña de los peregrinos.

Una sinfonía incesante de quenas, silbatos, campanas, acordeones, platillos y tambores nos envolvía al llegar. Comparsas de distintos lugares levantaban polvo con sus pasos y látigos; giraban, saltaban y caían, poniendo en movimiento las lentejuelas, pañuelos de colores neón, cintas, borlas y plumas que adornaban sus trajes. Todo ocurría alrededor de la capilla; era el centro de todo. Desde allí, filas interminables de personas esperaban su turno día y noche, bajo el sol o la nieve, para saludar al Cristo pintado sobre la roca.

La mayoría de peregrinos cusqueños llegan organizados en "naciones", que corresponden a sus lugares de origen dentro de la región. Arriban en camiones de carga o vehículos particulares desde zonas agrícolas donde predomina el idioma quechua, o desde las regiones de habla aimara del sureste. Las naciones de Paucartambo y Quispicanchi son las que históricamente han realizado las peregrinaciones más antiguas.

Señor de Qoyliur Rit'i

tiene memoria—. Mis padres me trajeron cuando era niño, y sus padres antes de ellos. Le debo mucho al Taytacha: mi carrito, mi casa, la universidad de mis hijos, todo.

'Taytacha' es una forma afectuosa de decir "mi papito" en quechua, lengua originaria de los Andes sudamericanos, y se utiliza para referirse a padres, abuelos y deidades masculinas.

Esta peregrinación se realiza en la región de Cusco, en Perú, durante la luna llena de finales de mayo e inicios de junio, antes del solsticio de invierno. Desde distintos lugares de Cusco, del Perú e incluso del extranjero, cientos de miles de personas recorren alrededor de ocho kilómetros desde el poblado de Mahuayani, avanzando por senderos de montaña bajo un sol abrasador y la iluminación de la luna durante la noche.

Inscrita en la Lista Representativa del Patrimonio Cultural Inmaterial de la Humanidad de la UNESCO en

Danzantes Qhapaq Qolia se arrodillan ante una cruz de madera durante el amanecer.

2011, esta celebración combina elementos del catolicismo con el culto a deidades prehispánicas. Aunque existen diversas versiones sobre su origen, se dice que la peregrinación comenzó cuando civilizaciones preincaicas de la región de Cusco buscaban la fuente del agua. Con la conquista española de América y la posterior colonización, los católicos procuraron sincretizar esta celebración con su religión.

—Es la historia del pequeño Manuelito, que se le apareció a Mariano mientras pastoreaba sus alpacas —me contó Alex Quiñones, danzante de los Qhapaq Qolla de Tallankani, de la nación Paucartambo, mientras me ayudaba a instalarme en el campamento de su comparsa.

La versión más popular está vinculada con la aparición milagrosa de Cristo sobre la roca en 1780. Mariano Mayta, un niño quechua que cuidaba alpacas en las alturas del glaciar Colquepunco, recibió la visita de otro niño llamado Manuel. Ambos se hicieron amigos y, con el paso de los días, el rebaño comenzó a crecer. Sorprendido, el padre de Mariano envió a buscar ropa nueva para recompensar al extraño muchacho, pero las telas que usaba Manuel eran las mismas que usaba el obispo de Cusco. Por la extrañeza, se organizó una comisión para buscar al niño, encabezada por el párroco de Ocongate, la ciudad más cercana al santuario.

—Cuando estaban a punto de atrapar al pequeño Manuelito, se transformó en Jesús sobre la roca, y allí construyeron la capilla. Él es el Señor de Qoyllur Rit'i —me explicó Quiñones.

Entre las danzas más antiguas e históricas destacan los Puka Pakuri Wayri Chunchu, que usan tocados de plumas y portan lanzas, representando a las comunidades indígenas amazónicas cercanas a los Andes; los Qhapaq Qollas, que utilizan máscaras tejidas blancas y representan a los comerciantes de caravanas de llamas provenientes del Altiplano del Qollao; y los Ukumaris, que cubren sus cuerpos con gruesas prendas de lana, máscaras de tela, látigos y silbatos. Ellos representan a los hombres-oso, seres mitológicos encargados de proteger el santuario y mantener la disciplina durante la peregrinación.

En las primeras horas de la madrugada es difícil dormir. Mareas de personas continúan moviéndose alrededor de la capilla como un solo cuerpo; las comparsas siguen bailando cerca, en todas partes al mismo tiempo. Fuegos artificiales y altavoces mantienen despiertos a los fieles. Después de la misa de medianoche, grupos de Ukumaris comienzan el ascenso al nevado Colquepunco,

Danzantes Qhapaq Qolia durante el amanecer. Llevan máscaras tejidas de color blanco y representan a los comerciantes de caravanas de llamas de la región del Altiplano de la meseta del Qollao.

considerado un ser vivo y una deidad, donde pasarán la noche realizando diversos rituales. Como seres mitológicos, solo ellos tienen permitido subir. A esas temperaturas el agua se congela con facilidad y el frío en las manos y los pies vuelve imposible dormir. Quiñones me ofrece un cigarrillo, un poco de licor y hojas de coca para masticar. Las hojas de coca adormecen el dolor y el frío, y proporcionan algo de energía para continuar.

—Para que aguantes el frío — me dice.

Danzantes peregrinos, vestidos con sus trajes tradicionales, esperan su turno para entrar a la capilla.

Más tarde, junto con todos los demás, bebemos infusiones de hierbas mezcladas con licor.

Por la mañana, antes de que el sol aparezca sobre las montañas, los peregrinos se acercan a cruces ubicadas cerca de la base del glaciar. Los danzantes se colocan sus coloridos trajes y realizan una breve ascensión llevando sus estandartes e imágenes en miniatura del Señor de Qoyllur Rit'i hasta aquellas cruces, donde se arrodillan para recibir los primeros rayos de luz.

Desde lo alto, hasta donde alcanza la vista, miles y miles de hombres-oso comienzan su descenso, gruñendo y haciendo sonar las pequeñas campanas sujetas a sus cuerpos mientras corren. Bajan cargando enormes cruces de madera y sus banderas, advirtiendo a cualquiera que intente subir que debe regresar.

—Este lugar es sagrado, hermano. Por favor, regresa — me dijo uno de los Ukumaris.

Hasta hace pocos años, los Ukumaris descendían cargando bloques de hielo sobre sus espaldas. El agua resultante de su deshielo era considerada sagrada y medicinal. Durante el recorrido la utilizaban como agua bendita y la llevaban a sus comunidades agrícolas para bendecir los cultivos. En ocasiones, incluso era transportada hasta la Plaza de Armas de Cusco durante las celebraciones del Corpus Christi, que coincidían con el final de la peregrinación. Esta tradición fue prohibida debido al retroceso del glaciar y al derretimiento del hielo causado por el calentamiento global.

Una misa final, conocida como la bendición, marca el fin de la peregrinación. Algunos llegaron solo por unas horas para ver y tocar la imagen; otros permanecieron durante los tres días completos de celebración. Miles de personas, a pie o a lomo de mula, emprenden el regreso a casa del mismo modo en que llegaron, con la esperanza, como me dijo un peregrino, de que "si el Taytacha Qoyllur Rit'i lo permite", volverán al año siguiente.

Qoyllur Rit'i: The Snow Star Pilgrimage in the Peruvian Andes

Story and photos by Erick Diaz Veliz

The sanctuary wasn´t too far. Lines of people moved in the same direction and surrounded me every time I stopped to take a break; when I turned around, the heads of pilgrims and mules formed a line so long that it disappeared through the mountains. We only had one last hill left, steep and crowded with street vendors, where stalls selling local food and even amulets made for an obligatory stop to cynically dispel, if only for a moment, altitude sickness, headaches, and calm our hearts.

8 kilometers is what pilgrims walk to reach the sanctuary.

Surrounded by candles, one of the last crosses offered a scene difficult to find anywhere else: an immense valley, nearly 4,900 meters above sea level (16,080 ft), with so many pilgrims that they covered the glacial basin like a blanket of confetti that a single breath could send into the sky. A city of tents and stalls stretched across the Sinanqara Valley, temporarily inhabited by worshippers, dancers, and mythological figures from Andean religiosity who had come to venerate the Lord of Qoyllur Rit'i at the sanctuary of the same name, at the foot of the Colquepunco summit.

"What does Qoyllur Rit'i mean?" I asked.

"It means star snow, in Quechua," Justiniano Quispe told me while accompanying me during one of my rest stops, a family man from Cusco in his sixties who has visited the sanctuary for as long as he can remember. "My parents brought me here when I was little, and their parents before them, surely. I owe a lot to Taytacha: my little car, my house, my children's university education, everything." Taytacha is a warm way to say "my father" in the Quechua language, native to the South American Andes, and is used to refer to fathers, grandfathers, and male deities.

The pilgrimage takes place in the Cusco region of Peru during the full moon of late May and early June, before the winter solstice. From different parts of Cusco, Peru, and even the world, hundreds of thousands walk and ride mules for around eight kilometers from Mahuayani town, winding along mountain paths under the burning sun and illuminated by the moon at night.

An unceasing symphony of flutes, whistles, bells, accordions, cymbals, and drums surrounded us as we arrived. Dance troupes from different places kicked up dust with their steps and whips; they spun, shouted, rose and fell, setting in motion the sequins, neon-colored scarves, ribbons, tassels, and feathers decorating their costumes. Everything happened around the chapel; it was the center. From it, lines and lines of people waited for their turn day and night, under sun or snow, to greet Christ painted on the rock.

Most pilgrims from Cusco arrive in "nations," corresponding to their place of origin within the region. They come by cargo trucks or private vehicles from agricultural areas where Quechua is predominantly spoken, or from the Aymara-speaking regions to the southeast. The nations of Paucartambo and Quispicanchi are the ones that, historically, have made the pilgrimage longer than any others.

Included on UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity list in 2011, this celebration blends elements of Catholicism with the worship of pre-Hispanic deities. Although there are various accounts of its origin, it is said that the pilgrimage began when pre-Inca civilizations in the Cusco region sought the source of water. With the Spanish conquest of the Americas and the subsequent colonization,

Pilgrims light candles to their small images and banners during the night.

Catholics sought to syncretize this celebration with their religion.*

"It's the story of little Manuelito, who appeared to Mariano while he was herding his alpacas," Alex Quiñones told me, a dancer from the Qhapaq Qolla of Tallankani in the Paucartambo nation, while helping me settle into his troupe's camp.

The most popular version is the one connected to the miraculous appearance of Christ on the rock in 1780. Mariano Mayta, a Quechua boy herding alpacas in the heights of the Colquepunco glacier, was visited by another boy named Manuel. The two became close friends, and as the days passed, the herd began to grow. Mariano's father, surprised, sent for new clothes to reward the strange boy, but the fabric worn by Manuel was used exclusively by the Bishop of Cusco. A commission was therefore sent in search of the boy, led by the parish priest of Ocongate, the nearest city.

Pilgrim dancers in their traditional attire participate in the procession of Qoyliur Rit'i

"When they were about to capture little Manuelito, he transformed into Jesus upon the rock, and that's where they built the chapel. He is the Lord of Qoyllur Rit'i," Quiñones told me.

Among the historical and oldest dances are the Puka Pakuri Wayri Chunchu, who wear feathered headdresses and carry spears, representing the Indigenous communities of the Amazon rainforest near the Andes; the Qhapaq Qollas, who wear white woven masks and represent llama caravan traders from the Altiplano region of the Qollao plateau; and the Ukumaris, who wear long wool coverings over their bodies, cloth masks, whips, and whistles. They represent the bear-men: mythological beings who protect the sanctuary and maintain order during the pilgrimage.

In the early hours of the morning, it is difficult to sleep. Seas of people continue moving around the chapel as a single body; dance troupes continue performing nearby, everywhere at the same time. Fireworks and loudspeakers keep the faithful awake. After midnight, groups of Ukumaris begin their ascent of the Colquepunco summit, considered a living being and a deity, where they will spend the night and carry out a series of rituals. As mythological beings, only they are allowed to climb. At these temperatures, water freezes easily, and the cold in one's hands and feet makes sleep impossible. Quiñones hands me a cigarette and coca leaves to chew. They numb the pain and cold, and provide some energy to continue.

"To endure the cold," he says. Later, together with everyone else, we drink herbal infusions mixed with liquor.

In the morning, before the sun rises above the mountains, pilgrims approach the crosses near the base of the glacier. Dancers put on their colorful costumes and make a short ascent carrying their standards and miniature images of the Lord of Qoyllur Rit'i to those crosses, where they kneel as they receive the first rays of sunlight. From above, as far as the eye can see, thousands upon thousands of those bear-men begin their descent, growling and ringing the little bells attached to their bodies as they run. They come down carrying giant wooden crosses, their flags, warning anyone attempting to climb to turn back.

"This place is sacred, brother, please go back," one of the Ukumaris told me.

Until only a few years ago, the Ukumaris carried blocks of ice on their backs during their descent, whose melted water was considered sacred and medicinal. Along the way, they used it as holy water and transported it to their agricultural communities, where they blessed their crops. Sometimes, the ice was even taken to Cusco's main square during the Corpus Christi celebrations, which coincided with the end of the pilgrimage. This tradition was prohibited due to the glacier's retreat and the melting of the ice caused by global warming.

A final mass known as the blessing marks the end of the pilgrimage. Some came only for a few hours to see the image; others remained for the full three days of the celebration. Thousands of people, on foot or on muleback, begin their journey home just as they arrived, with the hope, as one pilgrim told me, that "if Father Qoyllur Rit'i allows it," they will return the following year.

**In the Andes, there's a lot of talk about the syncretism between Spanish Catholicism and indigenous religion as a combination. Some anthropologists describe it as a new type of Christianity, like Andean Christianity. But generally, it's simply said as syncretism.*

Pilgrims travel in cargo trucks to the start of the walk.

Erick Diaz Veliz is a Peruvian reporter based in Lansing, Michigan. He has documents and reports on cultural, social, and political issues in Peru and Michigan as a freelancer. Erick was born in Lima, Peru, and has been living in Lansing since 2018.

Detroit City Double Header At Keyworth

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS
SPORTS
Sports Editor: Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL

Story and photos by Adam J. Dewey - for EL CENTRAL

Louisville City FC defeats Detroit City FC men, 4-3, in penalty kicks after their USL Cup matchup ended regulation in a 0-0 draw and Detroit City FC women staged a comeback in the 85th minute with a goal by Erin Rasmussen to tie and finish the match in a 2-2 draw against Union Macomb FC at Keyworth Stadium on June 20, 2026.

The DCFC men travel to Birmingham Legion FC, on Thursday, July 2nd at 8:00 p.m.

The DCFC women host Union FC Macomb, for the final game of the regular season, on Saturday, June 27th, at7:00 p.m.

For more information about Detroit City FC, visit detcityfc.com.com and follow @DetroitCityFC on Twitter and Facebook and @detroitcityfootballclub on Instagram.

Photos below are highlights from the DCFC double header at Keyworth Stadium

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS
Patcando la No. 5

Detroit City Drops Dull Draw In Penalties

David Levine
EL CENTRAL

A beautiful summer day brought out a huge crowd to Keyworth Stadium last weekend, but Detroit City failed to deliver much excitement. The home team played out a goalless draw against Louisville City in a Prinx Tires USL Cup game. Under the rules of the tournament, the game went to penalties. Kobe Hernandez-Foster saw his shot saved to start the shootout and Le Rouge never regained momentum.

DCFC manager Danny Dichio knew that they had to win in regulation to maintain any realistic hopes of progressing to the quarterfinals, but rotated his squad anyway. Striker Darrin Smith, who scored five goals against Sporting Jax in his last game, received a day off and didn't dress. Defender Callum Montgomery joined several injured players in sitting the game out, as well.

That left DCFC's attack missing its focal point. Ben Morris started up front, but rarely made any impact on the match. The visitors kept Ates Diouf under wraps and there was little attacking impetus from midfield. During the second half, Le Rouge failed to take a shot on goal.

While the offense struggled, the defense kept Louisville City at bay. Devon Amoo-Mensah led the back line in front of goalkeeper Carlos Herrera. With Rio Hope-Gund taking Montgomery's spot, they shut down towering Tola Showunmi in a physical battle.

Dichio finally introduced Maxi Rodriguez and Connor Rutz in late attempt to perk up the anemic attack, but played both out of position. Rodriguez went in on the right wing, while Rutz took the center forward spot. Both looked unfamiliar with their roles and had little impact. Rodriguez ended up missing DCFC's fourth penalty kick, giving Louisville City the extra point in the group table. The whole league is taking this weekend off, which will ideally give DCFC's injured players time recover and strengthen the team for the second half of the season.

USA And Mexico Advance In Thrilling World Cup Play

This has certainly been a great World Cup for the host nations. Canada, having just earned their first point in a draw with Bosnia-Herzegovina, earned their first ever World Cup win in a 6-0 rout of nine-man Qatar. Juventus striker Jonathan David temporarily joined Lionel Messi on three goals with a hat trick in front of a raucous home crowd at BC Place in Vancouver. It wasn't all good news for Canada. Qatar's second red card came from a challenge that broke the leg of midfield star Ismael Kone. Kone's loss will be tough for the Canadians to overcome. They face Switzerland this week in the group decider. The Canadians only need a draw to remain in Vancouver for the round of 32.

Mexico has yet to run up a big score like the other two hosts. They settled for a minimal 1-0 win over South Korea in a competitive match at the Guadalajara Stadium. Luis Romo scored the only goal in the 50th minute. The game was a midfield battle of attrition that the hosts edged, but only just. The win ensures Mexico will advance to the round of 32 and remain in Mexico to play that match at the Azteca. If they win, they will remain at home for the round of 16, too.

While Canada would have expected to be on or around four points and Mexico's fervent support demanded six points from two games, few would have predicted the ease with which the United States clinched their group. FIFA's ranking system had the Americans' group with Paraguay, Australia, and Turkiye as the most competitive in the first round. The USA ripped Paraguay apart in a game featuring the best first half a US team has ever played at a World Cup.

The USA went into the second match knowing that Australia would come into the game with a chip on their shoulders and and rough and tumble approach to football. However, for the second time in as many games, some brilliant approach work created an own goal that benefited the US early in the game. This time Folarin Balogun blew past a defender and tried to pick out Ricardo Pepi in front of goal. The unfortunate Cameron Burgess stepped in front of the pass only to put it in his own goal.

Alex Freeman, the youngest player on the US team, doubled the lead when he reacted first to Sergino Dest's deflected shot and headed in his first ever World Cup goal. It's been a meteoric jump for Freeman during the last fifteen months. He's gone from first MLS start in March of 2025 to scoring a World Cup goal with a transfer to UEFA Champions League participating Villareal in between.

The Americans will wrap up group play with a meaningless game against Turkiye. The Turks have lost both their games without scoring a goal. They have attempted over sixty shots, but watched their campaign effectively end in defeat against ten-man Paraguay. US boss Mauricio Pochettino will have the luxury of resting four players on yellow cards and giving Christian Pulisic more time to recover from the calf injury that forced him off at halftime of the opening match against Paraguay.

The third match will be a great chance for some players who have yet to appear to be involved in the World Cup. The USA will be in the round of 32 and play on July 1 in Santa Clara, California against a 3rd place team to be determined. As impressive as the USA has been on the field, what has really stood out has been the support in the stands. Seattle has been a bastion of the sport since the early 1970s. They have wanted to show their support for the national team in a big game for years. When the time came against Australia, they filled the Seattle Stadium and made incredible noise from the national anthem at the beginning to the serenade of John Denver's Country Road at the end. They even sang Pochettino's name as he did his post match on field interview. The coach, who isn't even American, became emotional as he felt the love.

The USA has never won their first two games at a World Cup before. The USA has never clinched their group or secured advancement to the second round after two games before. They have also been clearly superior to Paraguay and Australia. However, the US has to prove they can beat European teams at the World Cup. Turkiye will be the first opportunity to break their long losing streak against European opposition. Then, they will have to wait until Saturday to learn who the next opponent will be.

Xtreme Intense Championship Wrestling, Saturday, June 27th in Lincoln Park

Opinión de un Invitado:

¿Se está perdiendo El español en Estados Unidos?

By José López Zamorano/ LA RED HISPANA

Hay una pregunta que incomoda, pero que vale la pena hacernos con honestidad: ¿estamos los hispanos abandonando el español en Estados Unidos? La respuesta no es sencilla. No se trata de culpar a nadie, ni de medir quién es "más hispano" por el idioma que habla.

La vida en Estados Unidos empuja, naturalmente, hacia el inglés.

Es el idioma de la escuela, del trabajo, de los trámites, de la política, de la vida pública. Para muchos hijos y nietos de inmigrantes, el inglés no es una opción: es el idioma en el que crecen.

Pero algo está ocurriendo.

De acuerdo con el Pew Research Center, aunque el 75% de los hispanos dice poder hablar y entender español, esa proporción cae al 55% entre los latinos nacidos en Estados Unidos.

Y entre los hispanos de tercera generación, baja aún más: apenas 34% dice poder comunicarse en español.

No es un dato menor. Es una señal de un cambio profundo.

La pérdida gradual del español tiene implicaciones culturales, sociales, políticas y también mediáticas.

Afecta la forma en que las familias se comunican entre generaciones. Afecta la manera en que los jóvenes se conectan con sus raíces.

Por supuesto, hablar inglés es indispensable para progresar en Estados Unidos. Sería absurdo negarlo.

El inglés abre puertas en la educación, el empleo, los servicios públicos, la participación cívica y la vida diaria. Para cualquier latino que vive en este país, dominar el inglés no es una traición: es una herramienta de supervivencia y de avance.

El problema no es aprender inglés. El problema es perder el español en el camino.

Aquí 3 sugerencias para alentar el uso diario del español:

1. Hablen el idioma en casa todos los días, aunque sea en momentos simples: durante la comida, al despedirse, al contar cómo fue el día. La constancia vale más que la perfección.
2. Usen cuentos, canciones, películas y juegos del país natal para que el idioma se sienta vivo, divertido y conectado con la cultura, no como una tarea escolar extra.
3. Mantengan vínculos con familiares y comunidad, por ejemplo, con llamadas a abuelos, grupos culturales o amistades que hablen el idioma. Nada enseña mejor que usarlo con personas queridas.

La clave está en defender el bilingüismo, no como una carga, sino como una ventaja. No se trata de escoger entre inglés o español. Se trata de entender que nuestros hijos pueden tener acceso a ambos mundos.

Hablar inglés les permite avanzar en Estados Unidos. Hablar español les permite no olvidar de dónde vienen. El bilingüismo enriquece nuestras vidas, fortalece nuestras comunidades y aporta al desarrollo económico, cultural y político de un país diverso.

Por eso, la pregunta no debería ser, quizás, si los hispanos estamos abandonando el español. La pregunta debería ser: ¿qué estamos dispuestos a hacer para no perderlo?

Porque el español es un tesoro. Y ninguna comunidad debería darse el lujo de perder su propia voz.

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EDITORIAL OPINION

Guest Opinion:

Class Warriors, Class Worriers, and Class Wimps
Democrats must take on America's oligarchs. Here's how.

By Robert Reich

The last time Americans faced such overwhelming evidence that the monied interests were screwing them over was the Great Crash of 1929 and ensuing Great Depression, resulting in the presidency of Franklin D. Roosevelt, starting in 1933.

The one silver lining of the current Trump-Musk-Bezos-Ellison-Murdoch-Koch horror show is that most Americans now know beyond any reasonable doubt that they're on the losing side of a class war and are justifiably pissed.

America's first trillionaire is a vicious white supremacist who's stirring up hate around the world and backing Republican candidates with big bucks. American billionaires, meanwhile, are openly sucking up to America's first dictator, spending lavishly on whatever he wants, and gobbling up media outlets so most Americans won't know what's going on.

Where has this gotten us? Workers' share of the nation's income has now dropped to the lowest it's been since records began in 1947, while profits' share is the highest since 1950 (showing up in a rip-roaring stock market).

This is morally wrong. "Income from capital risks replacing income from labor," Pope Leo wrote in Magnifica Humanitas, his recent encyclical letter.

It's also undermining our democracy. "America has a choice," the jurist Louis Brandeis is reputed to have said. "We can have great wealth in a few hands or we can have a democracy, but we cannot have both."

It's time for Democrats to take on the class war that's being waged by the nation's oligarchy against most Americans by becoming class warriors themselves.

By class warrior I don't mean resorting to violence or name-calling. I mean recognizing that a billionaire class is bad for America and calling for bold changes to reverse it: taxing great wealth, busting up monopolies, strengthening labor unions, raising the minimum wage, demanding profit-sharing and capital-sharing, ensuring Medicare for all and a universal basic income, and getting big money out of politics.

FDR wasn't afraid to be a class warrior: "Never before in all our history have [the monied interests] been so unified against one candidate as they stand today," he thundered in 1936. "They are unanimous in their hate for me — and I welcome their hatred."

But these days, most Democratic politicians are reluctant to take on the oligarchs. Other than Bernie Sanders, AOC, and Zohran Mamdani, who else is loudly doing it?

Instead of being class warriors, many Democratic politicians are class worriers. They openly worry that inequalities of income, wealth, and opportunity are out of control — but they won't fight for what must be done. I'm talking about Third-way "moderate" Democrats who focus on "suburban swing" voters. and Washington-based consultants who urge Democratic candidates to move to the "center."

Some Democrats are simply class wimps, so afraid of offending the monied interests that fund their campaigns they won't even support modest reforms.

Even here in California, the putative home of progressive politics in America, too many Democratic politicians are wimping out. California Governor Gavin Newsom publicly opposes the wealth tax initiative now on California's November ballot, for fear billionaires will leave the state (they won't). San Francisco Mayor Daniel Lurie led the opposition to a city ballot measure to expand the city's higher corporate tax rate on companies whose CEOs make at

least 100 times more than their median employees. The measure was narrowly defeated.

This has to change. Unless Democrats stand up to the oligarchs now running this nation, there won't be any alternative to Trump Republicanism in the future, or any reason for a Democratic Party.

This should be the Democrats' hour. With inequality at levels never before seen, with a racist trillionaire and scores of billionaires poisoning our politics, with corporate profits at record heights while most American workers struggle harder than ever just to stay afloat, with a Republican majority in Congress slashing Medicaid and food stamps to finance a tax cut for the super-rich, with the looming threat of AI destroying jobs, and with one of the most brazenly corrupt politicians in American history now occupying the Oval Office — with all of this, Democrats should be at least as loud as they were under FDR.

The Democratic Party must seek to return to the American people the wealth and power that the obscenely rich have taken from them. This should be the core Democratic message. It explains the affordability crisis. It reveals the epidemic of corruption. It clarifies corporate welfare and crony capitalism. It shows what must be done.

Opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Editor

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Opinión de un Invitado:

Guerreros de clase, preocupados por la clase y cobardes de clase
Los demócratas deben enfrentarse a los oligarcas de Estados Unidos. He aquí cómo.

Por Robert Reich

La última vez que los estadounidenses se enfrentaron a pruebas tan abrumadoras de que los intereses económicos los estaban perjudicando fue durante el Gran Crac de 1929 y la posterior Gran Depresión, lo que desembocó en la presidencia de Franklin D. Roosevelt a partir de 1933.

El único aspecto positivo del actual espectáculo dantesco protagonizado por Trump, Musk, Bezos, Ellison, Murdoch y Koch es que la mayoría de los estadounidenses sabe ahora, más allá de toda duda razonable, que están en el bando perdedor de una lucha de clases y están justificadamente indignados.

El primer billonario de Estados Unidos es un supremacista blanco despiadado que aviva el odio en todo el mundo y financia con enormes sumas a candidatos republicanos. Mientras tanto, los multimillonarios estadounidenses se arrastran abiertamente ante el primer dictador del país, gastando fortunas en sus caprichos y absorbiendo medios de comunicación para que la mayoría de los ciudadanos no se entere de lo que está sucediendo.

¿A qué nos ha llevado esto? La participación de los trabajadores en los ingresos nacionales ha caído a su nivel más bajo desde que comenzaron los registros en 1947, mientras que la participación de los beneficios empresariales es la más alta desde 1950 (lo que se refleja en un mercado bursátil en auge).

Esto es moralmente reprobable. «Los ingresos derivados del capital corren el riesgo de sustituir a los ingresos derivados del trabajo», escribió el Papa León en *Magnifica Humanitas*, su reciente encíclica.

También está socavando nuestra democracia. «Estados Unidos tiene una elección», se dice que afirmó el jurista Louis Brandeis. «Podemos tener una gran riqueza en pocas manos o podemos tener una democracia, pero no podemos tener ambas cosas».

Es hora de que los demócratas afronten la lucha de clases que la oligarquía nacional libra contra la mayoría de los estadounidenses, convirtiéndose ellos mismos en combatientes en esa lucha.

Por «combatiente en la lucha de clases» no me refiero a recurrir a la violencia ni a los insultos. Me refiero a reconocer que la existencia de una clase multimillonaria es perjudicial para Estados Unidos y a exigir cambios audaces para revertir esta situación: gravar las grandes fortunas, desmantelar monopolios, fortalecer los sindicatos, aumentar el salario mínimo, exigir el reparto de beneficios y de capital, garantizar Medicare para todos y una renta básica universal, y sacar el gran capital de la política. FDR no temía librar una batalla de clases: «Nunca antes en toda nuestra historia [los intereses económicos poderosos] han estado tan unidos contra un candidato como lo están hoy», tronó en 1936. «Están unánimes en su odio hacia mí, y yo celebro ese odio».

Sin embargo, hoy en día, la mayoría de los políticos demócratas se muestran reticentes a enfrentarse a los oligarcas. Aparte de Bernie Sanders, AOC y Zohran Mamdani, ¿quién más lo hace abiertamente?

En lugar de librar batallas de clases, muchos políticos demócratas se limitan a preocuparse por la cuestión de las clases. Les inquieta abiertamente que las desigualdades de ingresos, riqueza y oportunidades se hayan descontrolado, pero no están dispuestos a luchar por lo que es necesario hacer. Me refiero a los demócratas «moderados» de la Tercera Vía, centrados en los votantes indecisos de los suburbios, y a los consultores de Washington que instan a los candidatos demócratas a desplazarse hacia el «centro».

Algunos demócratas son simplemente unos cobardes en materia de clases sociales; temen tanto ofender a los intereses económicos que financian sus campañas que ni siquiera apoyan reformas modestas.

Incluso aquí en California, considerado el bastión de la política progresista en Estados Unidos, demasiados políticos demócratas están mostrando cobardía. El gobernador de California, Gavin Newsom, se opone públicamente a la iniciativa de impuesto a la riqueza que se someterá a votación en noviembre, por temor a que los multimillonarios abandonen el estado (cosa que no harán). El alcalde de San Francisco, Daniel Lurie, encabezó la oposición a una medida local destinada a ampliar la tasa impositiva corporativa más alta de la ciudad para aquellas empresas cuyos directores ejecutivos ganan al menos 100 veces más que el salario mediano de sus empleados. La medida fue rechazada por un estrecho margen.

Esto tiene que cambiar. Si los demócratas no plantan cara a los oligarcas que actualmente dirigen esta nación, no habrá alternativa al trumpismo republicano en el futuro, ni razón de ser para el Partido Demócrata.

Este debería ser el momento de los demócratas. Con una desigualdad en niveles nunca antes vistos, con un trillonario racista y decenas de multimillonarios envenenando nuestra política, con beneficios empresariales en máximos históricos mientras la mayoría de los trabajadores estadounidenses luchan más que nunca simplemente para salir adelante, con una mayoría republicana en el Congreso recortando Medicaid y los cupones de alimentos para financiar una rebaja fiscal a los superricos, con la amenaza inminente de que la IA destruya empleos y con uno de los políticos más descaradamente corruptos de la historia de Estados Unidos ocupando ahora el Despacho Oval... ante todo esto, los demócratas deberían alzar la voz con tanta fuerza como lo hicieron bajo el mandato de FDR.

El Partido Demócrata debe buscar devolver al pueblo estadounidense la riqueza y el poder que los obscenamente ricos le han arrebatado. Este debería ser el mensaje central de los demócratas. Explica la crisis de asequibilidad. Revela la epidemia de corrupción. Aclara en qué consisten las ayudas públicas a las grandes empresas y el capitalismo de amiguetes. Muestra lo que hay que hacer.

Las opiniones expresadas en esta columna no reflejan necesariamente el parecer del editor o del director.

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SPECIAL WORLD'S CULTURES

French Guiana

French Guiana

French Guiana is an overseas territory and department of France since 1946. It is located on the northern coast of South America, just below Guyana and Suriname, and it borders Brazil, with its coastline along the Atlantic Ocean–Caribbean Sea. Although it is situated in South America, it is part of the French Republic and the European Union. Its capital is Cayenne, which is also the most populated city. As part of France, its inhabitants are le-gally French citizens and also part of the European Union.

Since the 20th century, there have been independence movements, among which the Mou-vement de décolonisation et d'émancipation sociale (MDES), founded in 1991, stands out. Its main goal has been the independence of the territory; however, it has not achieved this objective due to a lack of national support.

Most of the population of French Guiana is concentrated in coastal cities, since a large part of the territory consists of protected natural areas of the Amazon rainforest, which host a high level of biodiversity.

Thanks to the low population density of French Guiana and the fact that most inhabitants live in coastal regions, the establishment of the Guiana Space Centre has been made possi-ble, located in the city of Kourou. Inaugurated in 1968, this complex is one of the world's main space launch bases and has been used by the European Space Agency for satellite launches. Its location near the equator provides advantages for space operations, making French Guiana a strategic hub for aerospace research and technology.

Kourou is also known for the Salvation Islands, a small archipelago located off the Atlan-tic coast. These islands were used for decades as part of the French penal system

and still preserve buildings related to that historical period. Today, they are one of the most visited tourist destinations in the territory due to their historical heritage and natural landscapes.

One of the most distinctive places is the Amazonian Park of French Guiana. Created in 2007, it is the largest national park in France and in the European Union—despite not being located in Europe, an important paradox to consider. The park covers more than three million hectares and accounts for nearly 40% of the total territory of French Guiana. In addition to protecting Amazonian ecosystems, it aims to preserve the cultural heritage of the communities living in the region, including various Indigenous peoples and traditio-nal communities.

The natural richness of French Guiana can also be seen in the Kaw Marshes, one of the largest wetland areas in France. This natural reserve is notable for its biodiversity and the presence of numerous species of birds, reptiles, and mammals. Visitors often explore the area by boat to observe wildlife and landscapes formed by rivers, channels, and vast wetlands. Due to its isolation, much of this ecosystem has remained relatively protected from human intervention.

The cuisine of French Guiana reflects the diversity of its population. The bouillon d'awara, considered one of the most traditional dishes, is made from the pulp of the awara fruit and may include meat, fish, seafood, vegetables, and spices. Its preparation takes se-veral hours or even days, which is why it is usually associated with celebrations and family gatherings. In addition to bouillon d'awara, local cui-sine includes fish and seafood, as well as dishes influenced by Creole, African, Indigenous, European, and Asian traditions. Among the most notable dishes are colombo-style stews seasoned with spices, along with various fish and seafood recipes served with vegetables and local produce.

Sigue cada semana en
EL CENTRAL Hispanic News
ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO,
by Mariana Ayón RV

ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO

Guyana Francesa

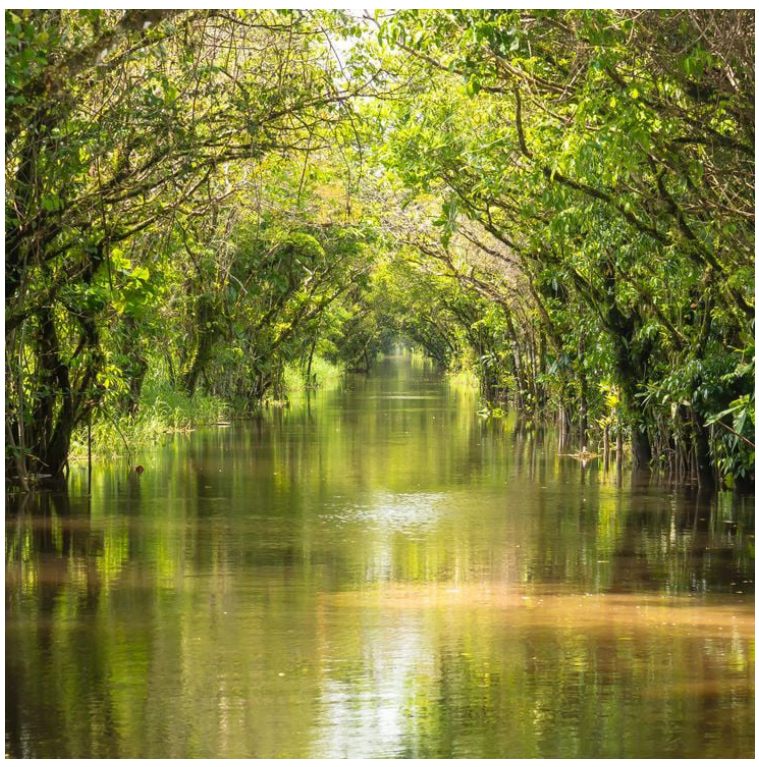
Guyana Francesa

La Guyana Francesa es un territorio y departamento de ultramar de Francia desde 1946. Se encuentra ubicado en la costa norte de América del Sur. Justo debajo de la República Guyana y Surinam, colinda con Brasil y tiene sus costas en el océano Atlántico – Mar Caribe. Aunque se encuentra en el continente sudamericano, forma parte de la República Francesa y de la Unión Europea. Su capital es Cayena y a su vez la ciudad más poblada. Siendo parte de Francia, forma parte de la Unión Europea y sus ciudadanos son legalmente franceses.

Desde el siglo XX ha habido movimientos independentistas, entre los que destaca el Mouvement de décolonisation et d'émancipation sociale (MDES), fundado en 1991, cuyo objetivo principal ha sido la independencia del territorio, sin embargo, no han logrado alcanzar el proyecto por falta de apoyo nacional.

La mayoría de la población de la Guyana francesa se concentran en las ciudades costeras, ya que gran parte del territorio cuenta con áreas naturales protegidas de la selva Amazónica, albergando a gran cantidad de biodiversidad.

Gracias a la baja población del departamento Guyana francesa y a que la mayor concentración de habitantes se encuentra en las regiones costera, se ha facilitado la creación el Centro Espacial Guayanés, localizado en la ciudad de Kourou. Inaugurado en 1968, este complejo es una de las principales bases de lanzamiento espacial del mundo y ha sido utilizado por la Agencia Espacial Europea para el envío de



satélites. Su ubicación cercana al ecuador ofrece ventajas para las operaciones espaciales, lo que ha convertido a la Guyana Francesa en un punto estratégico para la investigación y la tecnología aeroespacial.

Kourou también es conocida por las Islas de la Salvación, un pequeño archipiélago situado frente a la costa atlántica. Estas islas fueron utilizadas durante décadas como parte del sistema penitenciario francés y conservan edificaciones relacionadas con ese periodo histórico. Actualmente constituyen uno de los destinos turísticos más visitados del territorio debido a su patrimonio histórico y a sus paisajes naturales.

Uno de los lugares más característicos de es el Parque Amazónico de Guyana. Creado en 2007, el cual es el parque nacional más grande de Francia y de la Unión Europea, teniendo en cuenta que no se encuentra en Europa, una paradoja importante de considerar. El Parque tiene una superficie que supera

las tres millones de hectáreas y abarca cerca del 40% del territorio total de la Guyana Francesa. Además de proteger ecosistemas amazónicos, el parque busca preservar el patrimonio cultural de las comunidades que habitan la región, entre ellas diversos pueblos indígenas y comunidades tradicionales.

La riqueza natural de la Guyana Francesa también puede apreciarse en los Pantanos de Kaw, una de las zonas húmedas más extensas de Francia. Esta reserva natural destaca por su biodiversidad y por la presencia de numerosas especies de aves, reptiles y mamíferos. Los visitantes suelen recorrer la zona en embarcaciones para observar la fauna y los paisajes formados por ríos, canales y extensos humedales. Debido a su aislamiento, gran parte de este ecosistema se ha mantenido relativamente protegido de la intervención humana.

Otro aspecto relevante es la presencia de pequeñas localidades situadas en el interior amazónico, algunas de las cuales sólo son accesibles por vía fluvial o aérea. Estas poblaciones conservan formas de vida estrechamente relacionadas con el entorno natural y con tradiciones transmitidas por generaciones. El Parque Amazónico de Guyana considera la protección de estos patrimonios culturales como parte de sus objetivos de conservación.

La gastronomía de la Guyana Francesa refleja la diversidad de su población. El ***bouillon d'awara,*** considerado una de las preparaciones más tradicionales se elabora a partir de la pulpa del fruto de awara y puede incluir carnes, pescados, mariscos, verduras y especias. Su preparación requiere varias horas e incluso días, por lo que suele asociarse con celebraciones y reuniones familiares, especialmente durante la época de Pascua. Además del bouillon d'awara, la cocina local incluye pescados y mariscos, así como diferentes preparaciones influenciadas por las tradiciones criollas, africanas, indígenas, europeas y asiáticas. Entre los platillos más destacados se encuentran los colombo, guisos condimentados con especias, así como diversas recetas de pescado y mariscos acompañados de vegetales y productos locales.

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BETTO ARCOS
NPR CONTRIBUTOR, INTERVIEWER AND MC

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JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL ONSTAGE CONVERSATION LED BY BETO ARCOS WITH LA SANTA CECILIA, FOLLOWED BY A LIVE PERFORMANCE FROM THE BAND.

Saturday, June 27, 2026
Time: 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Mercado Plaza,
2826 Bagley St,
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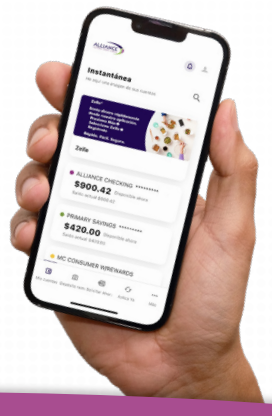

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CULTURE & ARTS FESTIVAL

CELEBRATE TOGETHER!

The Clark Park Culture and Arts Festival is a joyful neighborhood gathering where families, friends, and longtime Southwest Detroiters come together to celebrate the creativity and spirit of our community. Spend the afternoon enjoying local music, art, activities, and shared cultural pride. Connect with neighbors, explore community resources, and enjoy free food while it lasts. The festival is free and open to all—no tickets needed. Come feel at home in the heart of Southwest Detroit.

Free and Open to the Public

Sat, June 27
1PM– 4PM

1130 Clark Ave,
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What to Expect:

- Vision Check
- Color Vision Test
- Eye Health Evaluation
- Fundus Photography
- Follow- Up Appointments

Saturday, June 27th, 2026
Time: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Clark Park COALITION DETROIT

Location: Clark Park Coalition (inside building)
Address: 1130 Clark Street, Detroit, MI 48209

*No glasses prescriptions given.

Unveiling
& Dedication
Community Celebration

Join Us for the Dedication of a New Michigan Historical Marker Honoring:

Dr. Lucile "Luci" Cruz Gajec

Sunday, June 28, 2026
1:00 PM – 3:30 PM

La Joya Gardens
4000 W. Vernor Hwy, Detroit, MI 48209

Detroit VOCES SOUTHWEST ORAL HISTORY PROJECT
AGI CONSTRUCTION
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